

AMENDED CLAIMS

[Received by the International Bureau on 11 May 2005 (11.05.05);
original claims 1 to 22 are changed by new claims 1 to 12.] (3 Pages)

1. A brush holder including a unitary housing formed of a paint solvent-impermeable sheet material having fold lines formed thereon defining front and rear wall portions spaced at their respective side edges by side wall portions, a lower wall portion and an upper wall portion, said housing defining an open-topped cavity adapted to receive the bristle portion of a brush, said upper wall portion selectively closing said open-topped cavity, locating means associated with said upper wall portion and adapted to engage the handle of the brush, at least one aperture located at a lower portion of a side wall portion and adapted to admit a solvent, and suspension means whereby the brush holder and brush in assembly may be suspended.

2. A brush holder according to claim 1, wherein said sheet material is a flexible material selected whereby folding provides the brush holder with form stability.

3. A brush holder according to claim 1, wherein said material is a substantially rigid material and has self-hinge lines formed thereon to enable said blank to be foldable.

4. A brush holder according to claim 1, wherein said location means comprises an opening in said upper wall portion through which the handle of the brush may pass.

5. A brush holder according to claim 4, wherein said location means includes brush handle gripping means selected to secure said brush in a selected position in said housing.

6. A brush holder according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said suspension means includes one or more tabs or the like associated with an upper portion of said housing and having formed therein a hanging hook or hanging loop.

7. A brush holder according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said suspension means includes a pair of spaced lands about said locating means and adapted to bear on the shoulders of the brush, and wherein said brush and holder in assembly are suspended by the hanging hole of said brush.

8. A brush holder formed unitarily of paint solvent-impermeable sheet material and including a body portion, a pair of lateral portions each spaced from opposite sides of said body portion by a side wall portion defined by a pair of spaced folds, at least one aperture located at a lower portion of the side wall portion and adapted to admit a solvent, a pair of closure portions each spaced from opposite ends of said body portion by an end portion defined by a pair of spaced folds thereabout, the upper of said end portions including an aperture, said lateral and closure portions being adapted to fold up about said folds to form a housing about a paint brush resting on said body portion with the

handle through said aperture, the first of said lateral portions being adapted to be folded first to extent substantially over the face of the brush opposed to the face of the brush resting on the body portion, whereupon the other of said lateral portions is relieved over part of its equivalent area,

and securing means selectively retaining said lateral and closure portions in said folded configuration.

9. A brush holder according to claim 8, wherein said sheet material is a flexible material, and wherein the pattern and fold parameters, and the folding order and securing means are all selected whereby the housing has sufficient form stability to form a relatively rigid housing for a paintbrush.

10. A brush holder according to claim 9, wherein said material is selected from sheet metal or plastic, coated paper material or the like.

11. A brush holder according to claim 8, wherein said securing means includes complementary one or more pairs of tongue-and-slot, self formed or attached press stud, hook-pile fastening or the like, and associated with said pair of closure portions.

12. A brush holder substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.